

Claims

1. Implantable medical device (2) adapted to be operated in a normal mode of operation and in at least one other mode of operation and provided with a signal detecting means (4) responsive of an external activation (6), c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that said
5 medical device is provided with a special timing means (10) adapted to be programmed with a specified time period, in which time period the device is adapted to enter said one other mode of operation being a predefined special mode of operation if an external activation is detected by said signal detecting means 4 during said specified time period, and that the device is adapted to enter a normal test mode of operation if an external
10 activation is detected by said signal detecting means 4 outside said specified time period.
2. Medical device according to claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that said predefined special mode of operation is a safe operating mode and programmed simultaneously as the specified time period is programmed.
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3. Medical device according to claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that said specified time period is less than 5 days.
4. Medical device according to claim 3, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that said
20 specified time period is less than 5 hours.
5. Medical device according to claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that said signal detecting means 4 is adapted to generate a detection signal that is set in a detection state upon the detection of an external activation.
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6. Medical device according to claim 5, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that said detection signal is in said detection state as long as the external activation persists.
7. Medical device according to claim 6, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that the
30 medical device remains in the special mode of operation entered during the specified time period even if the specified time period runs out, as long as the detection signal is in the detection state.

8. Medical device according to claim 1, characterized in that said specified time period starts to run when the programming is performed.

5 9. Medical device according to claim 1, characterized in that said specified time period starts to run a predefined period after the programming is performed.

10. Medical device according to claim 1, characterized in that said signal detecting means 4 is a magnetic sensor responsive of an external magnetic field.

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11. Medical device according to claim 1, characterized in that said signal detecting means 4 is a optical sensor responsive to light.

12. Medical device according to claim 1, characterized in that said
15 external activation are radio signals generated by an external programming means.

13. Medical device according to claim 12, characterized in that said external activation includes a signalling message in the form of electromagnetic pulses coded to mean activation.

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14. Medical device according to claim 13, characterized in that said special mode of operation is ended by an external deactivation including a signalling message in the form of electromagnetic pulses coded to mean deactivation.

25 15. Medical device according to claim 1, characterized in that said medical device is an implantable heart stimulator.